

THE EVENING STAR, With Sunday Morning Edition.

WASHINGTON, D. C.

MONDAY, April 18, 1917

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The Evening Star Newspaper Company
11th St. and Pennsylvania Avenue.New York Office: Tribune Bldg.
Chicago Office: First Nat. Bank Bldg.
European Office: 3 Regent St., London.
South American Office: La Valle 141,
Buenos Aires, Argentina.The Evening Star, with the Sunday
morning edition, is delivered by carriers
within the city at 45 cents per month;
daily only, 25 cents per month; Sunday
only, 10 cents per month. Orders may be
sent by mail, or telephone Main 2440.
Collection is made by carrier at the end
of each month.Subscription by mail—Payable in advance.
Six months, \$2.50; one year, \$4.50. Postage
paid. Sunday excepted. 40c per month.
Saturday Star, 10c; Sunday Star, 10c; Year,
\$4.50.

The Call to Service.

President Wilson's ringing appeal to the American people to do their part to win the war is an extension of his call to arms in the proclamation which followed the action of Congress. It defines and emphasizes the patriotic obligation to universal service.

For those who are best fitted there should be universal military training and, to the extent of the country's needs, universal service as well. But this is not all of the country's requirements in its hour of obligation to humanity in the cause of democracy and freedom. For all others than those who may join the ranks in the field or on the sea there is opportunity for universal service in lines that the President now clearly and forcefully points out in his address.

The spirit of the day is readiness to serve the country. Millions of Americans are asking now what they can do. The President answers them. He tells them how to translate their patriotic readiness into deeds that will count in the fight, how to contribute to the war strength of the nation.

During the first ten days of America's entry into the great world war the thought of universal service has spread through the country from ocean to ocean. Through every class of society, every line of occupation the idea of general contribution to the war cause has gained force. The President has collected in a most admirable way all these thoughts thus variously expressed in the first days since the war declaration, and by giving them universal publicity, with all the force of his position and the effectiveness of his array of facts and reasons, has sounded the call to the people so that every one of all ages and all capacities and all lines of occupation may learn where lies the path of duty.

This address to the American people is the most important stroke yet delivered in the battle of preparedness. It is an inspiration to them all to "do their bit" for America, and it puts the country squarely on the most practical war basis. The response cannot be questioned. It will be prompt and vigorous and sincere, and it will surely be effective.

England's nominal monarchy is conducted so strictly on lines of popular government that there is no inconsistency in her partnership in a war waged in behalf of true democracy as a world influence.

Any Berlin editor who questions the earnestness of American patriotism should have had a reporter at the corner of 11th street and Pennsylvania avenue last Saturday night.

While the D. A. R. is in no mood for political hostilities, its convention will never be mistaken even by the most thoughtless observer for an assemblage of pacifists.

Everything is coming the allies' way. In addition to the big remittances expected from over here, they have recaptured the coal regions of northern France.

Fressing Back the German Line.

West front fighting in France continues without abatement, indicating a determination on the part of the allied commanders to give the Germans no chance to strengthen their new line of defense to which they retreated last month, evidently with the design of securing a respite from pressure. No one knows exactly where the so-called Hindenburg line was located, save those engaged in the actual strategic work. In the British official statements the phrase has begun to appear, indicating that the commanders recognize a definite line of German intrusions as an objective. In the neighborhood of Arras the line has been apparently broken, and between St. Quentin and Cambrai it has been, if not broken, pressed back in a manner seriously to upset the German plan.

It is obviously the design of the allied commanders not merely to cause successive retreats from line to line, as from the Hindenburg line to the Quenat-Drocourt line east of Arras, but to tear gaps through the German defense wide and deep enough to admit a great force capable of separating large sections of the German army. The taking of Vimy ridge gave the British dominance over a wide extent of plain to the east and permitted the envelopment of Lens, the fall of which is apparently near at hand. With the fall of Lens, if it is accomplished, the allies gain control of a large coal mine area and secure an advantage in the attack on Lille, the capture of which is one of the primary objectives of the "push" on the northern end of the western line.

Emphasis is laid in all the official statements and unofficial descriptions of the fighting upon the heavy losses in prisoners and killed and wounded sustained by the Germans. It has been

definitely stated that the British losses in the fighting of the past week have been relatively slight. Some writers have noted the eagerness with which German soldiers cornered in the dug-outs and trenches surrender. Mention has been made of the poor clothing worn by some of them, an evidence of a deterioration in the equipment of the German force. In today's dispatches is noted the capture of a naval six-inch gun, suggesting that the German artillery supply is running low and that the fleet is being stripped of its armament to make good the losses sustained on the battle front.

These successive advances by the allies along the western front, with the occasional disclosure of evidences of German deterioration in morale and equipment, naturally arouse hopes of an early collapse of Teutonic resistance at least in France. But these hopes may rise too high, may meet with disappointment. The German tenacity must be reckoned with. It is certain to be a powerful factor for prolonging the war. Germany is not yet beaten, however her plans of battle may be disarranged.

Aid for the Farmers.

Upon the farmers of this country has been placed a definite and heavy responsibility. They are enjoined to plant the largest acreage ever put under cultivation in America in order that the country itself may be abundantly supplied with food and that a great surplus be raised for the supply of the nations with which the United States is now arrayed against the Germanic force. The farmers individually are undoubtedly willing to do their utmost. But with few exceptions they are at this hour in need of assistance if they are to do even as much this year as in the years past. They must have help to seed their farms and they must be assured of labor to plant and harvest the crops.

In another part of The Star today appears a letter proposing the organization of a great national society, having for its object the rendering of this assistance. The thought is an excellent one. It may be that through or with the aid of some such organization can be worked out the plans now formulating by the government to give the farmer the materials for raising the great crops that the country requires. The National Agricultural Society, lately in session here, has moved for the conservation of farm resources and urged a federal commission to regulate prices. The organization now proposed is designed to finance the farmers in their heavy labor of extraordinary tillage.

Already the question of seed, machinery and labor has been taken under serious consideration at the Department of Agriculture. Calls have been issued to those who wish to serve the country and are perhaps ineligible for military duty to go to the farm. The real problem will be to distribute this labor effectively. Some regulation of wages must be assured. There must be no competitive bidding for service with the result of advancing the cost of labor beyond the reach of the farmer.

Absolute reliance cannot be placed upon the farm loan bank system as a means of enabling the farmer to meet this crisis. Even at the low rates of interest offered recourse to this source of capital supply means debt, and at the present rate of cost of supplies, machinery, seeds, fertilizers and labor the debt involved in a preparation to double the crop will be too heavy for the American farmers to bear. The prices of seed and fertilizer and machinery must be fixed so that the farmers can reach their markets without involving themselves too seriously in obligations.

"The Red, White and Blue Society of the United States," proposed by The Star's correspondent, offers an opportunity for every American to do something to insure the full utilization of this country's rich agricultural resources and may prove as valuable as the Red Cross and the other agencies that are making for victory.

The desirability of practical preparedness is shown by the fact that no pacifist has attempted to molest Henry Cabot Lodge in several weeks.

Of course, the ultimate consumer will have to supply the big war fund. But this is one time when he gets his money's worth.

Suspicion must arise in Berlin that any lists of "trusties" left behind in the United States were considerably padded.

There will undoubtedly be a great falling off in extravagance if it can be made unfashionable.

Dr. Wu's Misfortune.

The American public will sympathize with Dr. Wu Ting-fang. Deafness has obliged him to retire from the office of foreign minister at home. He points out in his letter of resignation the great disadvantage imposed by the disability on one in such a station.

Ears—and very sharp ones—were while he had them much to Dr. Wu, both as diplomat and as man. He used his on all occasions. He acquired the great body of his large information by means of conversation. While representing his government in this country he became distinguished both as talker and as listener. He excelled in both roles. He was welcomed everywhere, and everywhere exhibited an abounding and entertaining curiosity.

It is a pleasant thing in the circles of the deaf that a person without ears should have at least four eyes. Dr. Wu has two good eyes, and puts the allotment to excellent purpose. But, in the case of a diplomat, charged with negotiations and obliged to hold many conferences, eyes cannot take the place of ears.

Still, though banished from office and the conference table, Dr. Wu can serve his country, and doubtless will do so, as in the past under more favorable circumstances.

He is probably the best informed man in China about occidental thought, customs, aspirations and performances. During his long service in America he saw the wheels go round, and noted how they turned and what they produced. And he not only made himself familiar with the occidental order, but conceived admiration for much of it. Since returning home he has been advising his countrymen to study western things and apply all that could be grafted on eastern life and purposes.

Taxation and the War.

The ways and means committee will begin consideration this week of questions relating to increased taxation. Many suggestions as to finding the money have been received, and others are likely. A very large sum has been recommended as necessary.

Congress has appropriated for the fiscal year beginning July 1 something like two billions of dollars. To this the President would have Congress add two billion dollars for the same period for equipping the army.

If Congress follows the President in the matter, a large portion of the money thus raised by taxation will be spent for permanent army plants, such as barracks, training camps, drill grounds, and for semi-permanent plants, such as fortifications, artillery and other things.

Now, as one of the suggestions runs, is not the sum mentioned very large at a time when appropriations for general purposes are so heavy? The investments if made will last many years. They will be made largely for posterity.

There is, of course, argument in the question as to how much money for this purpose should now be raised by taxation. A smaller sum in the opinion of some well advised and experienced men would suffice, in the light of present economic conditions and what appears to be immediately before the country. Taxation, they think, should not be pressed too far. An excess of tribute of that kind might retard business development.

Let us have, both in committee and in the open chambers of Congress, frank discussion of all points bearing upon the whole question of both revenues and their uses. Everybody understands that the government's needs are numerous and pressing, and nobody would skip the government at this time. But, even so, all arrangements should be made in businesslike manner, and with regard to both the present and the future.

The power to tax is the greatest power Congress exercises, and should be exercised at all times with the greatest care. At this time, with the world in armed commotion and we on the eve of participating, every means of raising money for governmental purposes should be closely scrutinized.

Col. W. J. B. says he is willing to go if wanted. Col. T. R. says he is going whether he is wanted or not.

Many a good German is frankly stating that he did not raise his boy to be a Prussian.

SHOOTING STARS.

BY PHILANDER JOHNSON.

Deriving Immediate Benefit.

"I'm afraid you don't take enough exercise." "I used to be delinquent in that respect," replied the indolent citizen. "But that's past. I get on my feet and expand my lungs every time anybody plays, sings or recites 'The Star Spangled Banner,' and it's happening more frequently every day."

Home.

Men sing of "Home, Sweet Home," so dear. And strive to toil aright for it. And when some danger hovers near, If they are men, they'll fight for it.

A Plunge Into Hostilities.

"It was a mistake for me to marry in order to keep from going into the army," remarked the man with a black eye and a lump on his forehead.

"You seem to have been in some sort of action."

"It's becoming the usual thing. And they tell me that in the army a man may go month after month without seeing any real fighting."

A Revised Epithet.

"Did anybody ever call you a czar?" "Yes," replied Senator Sorghum. "I didn't mind it so much a few years ago. But it would make me pretty indignant now to have it suggested that I am a mild and subdued man who is out of politics for life."

Question of Sufficiency.

"You seem troubled about your gardening proposition." "Yes," replied Mr. Crosslot. "I'm wondering whether I can raise enough to take care of the exceptional appetite the outdoor exercise will give me."

Hard Caroling.

Oh, April day
With blossoms gay—
How shall we sing
A song of spring?
The birds are here
With notes so clear,
And azure skies
Delight the eyes.

Oh, April day—
Bring out the sleigh!
The flowers are lost,
Dust off the frost,
And do not lose
Your overshoes—
How shall we sing
A song of spring?

KANN'S

Open Daily 8:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m.
Saturdays, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

KANN'S

April 18, 1917.
For tonight and probably tomorrow.

KANN'S

The Exclusive Washington Home of Drezwellsley Frocks and Colony Club Suits

—Opens its doors to the visiting delegates of the D. A. R. convention, and repeats yesterday's welcome and invitation to this special exhibit.

—To the women of Washington we say YOU KNOW THIS IS YOUR OWN STORE and therefore feel at home here at all times and on all occasions, and tomorrow is no exception to the rule.

To Be a Wearer of One of These Frocks or Suits Is to Achieve
Distinctiveness in Dress

Drezwellsley Frocks

—Are in a class by themselves. They are made in styles for women and misses.
—Afternoon frocks, sport frocks, frocks for graduation wear.
—Made up in the materials that will best express the idea of the style, and be most suitable to the occasion for which designed.
—Crepe de chine, crepe meteors, serges, pongees, French ginghams, linens, Jersey, satin and white nets.

Priced—\$12.95, \$16.95,
\$19.75 to \$35.00



Colony Club Suits

—Also distinguish their devotees with a certain chic and style that seems to belong inherently to a Colony Club suit.
—The high colors, as well as black and navy, find representation in the exquisitely tailored and beautifully finished suits.
—Materials employed are Burella Cloths, Wool Jerseys, Silk Jerseys, Poirer Twills, Men's Wear Serges and Silk Shantung.

Priced—\$25.00, \$29.75,
\$35.00 and \$39.75

Kann's—Second Floor.



The Semi-Made Skirt Has Come to Stay

—Its convenience, its style and the ease with which it can be finished off—just sew up the one seam and it is ready to wear—are the reasons for its astonishing popularity.

—Semi-Made Skirts in Black

—Plain tailored styles, with yoke in back; pockets, button trimmed; materials are serges and gabardines; waist measures 24 to 40.

\$4.98

—Semi-Made Skirts in Novelty Materials

—Box-pleated styles, 4-inch pleats; some with stitched yokes; others plain tailored, pocket-trimmed styles with yokes; the materials are plaids, checks, velours, serges, Scotch mixtures, coverts, shepherd checks and serges; waist measures, 24 to 36. AT.....

\$4.98 to \$6.98

Kann's—Street Floor.

Let the Practical Note

—creep in a moment—just long enough to make you pause in your spring planning to drop us a card, or telephone us to call for

Your Winter Furs

—We will place them, after carefully cleaning and ticketing, in our scientific storage vault; and you need think no more about them till next fall, when you are ready to wear them again.

Here—

—They are safe from moths, fire or theft. Our charges for this service are very small indeed; based on the value of your furs.

Don't Wait—

—You may forget later and something unforeseen may happen to your valued furs.

Kann's—Second Floor.

38-Inch Wash Voiles and Fast

Weave Tokio Crepes

Choice of Yd., 25c
either lot.

—Voiles, 38 inches wide, are in striped, polka-dot and floral designs; also many beautiful allover designs; in new spring colorings; and 40-inch Chiffon Lisse, in pink, blue, and lavender stripes; formerly selling at 50c a yard. Tomorrow, a yard.....

25c

—The Tokio Crepes are all fast weave striped patterns; also in plain colors to match the stripes; they are very desirable for men's shirts, women's and children's garments. A yard.....

25c

Kann's—Street Floor.

A Quartet of New Spring Silk Offerings

—Were \$1.50 Yard.

—Very Special, Yard.....

\$1.19

—Four of the most wanted kinds; in good colorings. Silks that suggest the new sport costumes, afternoon frocks, blouses, etc.

—33 to 36 Inch Sport Silks. These are shown in more than 50 color combinations, in printed Chinese pongee and sport failles.

—Chinese and Japanese Shantung Pongee, in the natural color, extra heavy, selected quality, for separate skirts, motor coats, women's dresses and men's wear.

—36-inch Chiffon Dress Taffeta, in a complete assortment of street and evening colors, with plenty of navy blue and black.

—36-inch Satin de Chine, extra heavy quality; in a complete line of street and evening shades, including black and white.

—Kann's—Street Floor.

Buy a Go-Cart or Pullman Sleeper

—To let your little one join the Baby Brigade which will soon turn out in full force as quickly as the weather is warm enough.

These Are Offered in Four Different Finishes.

Choice of
the lot at.....

\$24.95

—Natural shellac, brown, French gray and white enamel.

—All are made of best reed, with reclining backs, adjustable reed hoods, lined with best quality corduroy in colors to match; also complete with adjustable cushions of corduroy; reverse steel gears, rubber-tired steel wheels, tubular steel pushers, etc., in latest styles. Made by best known makers, such as Bloch, Heywood and Wakefield.

Kann's—Fourth Floor.



Moderately Priced But Extraordinarily Popular Are the Blouses at \$2.50 and \$3.95

—The \$2.50 Models

—may be seen at the Bargain Table—Street Floor—and include:
—Satin-striped tub silks, with two-in-one collars, double effect, in white habutai.
—China silks; copies of higher-priced blouses; have large collar and wide front frill; in flesh and white.
—White china silk with contrasting collar; in chartreuse, flesh, gold; also all white.

—The \$3.95 Models

—at Second Floor Tables are in fine quality Georgette crepe, with wide front frill and large collar; trimmed with beautiful filet lace; crepe de chine made up with contrasting vest and collar in Tuxedo style; sport blouses and tub silk blouses, with novelty collars and trills. Also washable nets and radium silk blouses. All sizes.



Everybody Must be Going Somewhere From the Way Trunks Were Bought Today

And Those Wise Ones Who Are Planning for the Summer Vacation Will Recognize the Extraordinary Values Offered in This

Sale of Trunks From the Bingham Trunk Co., Buffalo, N.Y., and Other Noted Trunk Factories

—All Perfect Trunks, though sold at from 40% to 50% under regular prices, because included are samples, surplus lots and discontinued styles.

—If you are not ready for the trunk now, a small deposit will reserve one for you for future delivery.

Tan Cowhide Suit Cases— \$3.85 | Suit Cases— 85c
—Also black enamel; linen lined. AT.....

Round Edge Trunks and Others

—All metal covered and slatted; also canvas covered; in dress and steamer styles; sizes to 38 inches. AT.....

\$6.85

Tan Cowhide Bags

—Plain, smooth finish; also walrus-grained leather bags with leather linings, and some black enamel bags; in 14, 16, and 18 inch sizes in the lot. AT.....

\$2.85

Dress and Steamer Trunks

—Slatted styles, with steel bumpers; sheet steel bottom, clamps, lock and key, and tray with hat box; sizes 28 to 32 inches. AT.....

\$2.95

Black Walrus Grain Bags

—16 and 18 inch sizes; with lock and key; men's or women's bags. AT.....

98c

Dress and Steamer Trunks

—All fiber covered and linen-lined styles, with rounded edges, slatted styles; also canvas-covered slatted trunks; hand riveted and cloth lined; sizes to 40 inches. Values to \$19.95, at.....

\$9.85

Three-piece Cowhide Bags

—In tan, also a 5-piece style in black; with shrunk or extension gussets. AT.....

\$3.85



Dress and Steamer Trunks, Worth Up to \$9.95

—All metal cover, steel bands, thick straps, nicely studded; slatted styles, and others, including Canvas-covered Trunks; all sizes to 38 inches. AT.....

\$4.95

"THE BUSY CORNER"

S. Kann Sons & Co.
8TH ST. AND PENNA. AVE.